



Inventory & Monitoring Program Pacific Island Network Monitoring Plan

Appendix F: Geographic Names

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29 September 2004

Pacific Island Network (PACN)

Territory of Guam

War in the Pacific National Historical Park (WAPA)

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

American Memorial Park, Saipan (AMME)

Territory of American Samoa

National Park of American Samoa (NPSA)

State of Hawaii

USS Arizona Memorial, O'ahu (USAR)

Kalaupapa National Historical Park, Moloka'i (KALA)

Haleakalā National Park, Maui (HALE)

Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail, Hawai'i (ALKA)

Pu'ukoholā Heiau National Historic Site, Hawai'i (PUHE)

Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park, Hawai'i (KAHO)

Pu'uhonua o Hōnaunau National Historical Park, Hawai'i (PUHO)

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, Hawai'i (HAVO)

CORRECT SPELLINGS OF GEOGRAPHIC (PLACE) NAMES

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) in Washington, D.C. maintains the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), which is the official list of place names for the United States, its territories, possessions, and affiliates. Their website is <http://geonames.usgs.gov/>. All Federal documents are required to use place names as they appear in the GNIS.

Today, the correct spelling of words in the Hawaiian, Samoan, or Chamorro languages require the use of special writing marks when appropriate. These marks include the macron and the glottal stop, and are used to assist speakers who are not familiar with the language. The macron appears as a long vowel marker (ā, ē, ī, ō, ū) and the glottal stop is similar to an apostrophe (‘).

The spellings of place names for all units in the Pacific Island Network are reviewed by the BGN, and the GNIS is updated as names are "corrected" to include the special marks, or to correct other errors in spelling. Technological challenges do not allow all computers to properly display documents written using native language fonts, and so we have decided not to include the macron and glottal stop in our text. Instead, we have included this list of all unit names in the Pacific Island Network of the National Park Service as they currently appear in the GNIS database. The GNIS and appropriate language dictionaries may be consulted for the correct spellings of other place names.

When Congress enacts legislation the place names are codified and entered into the GNIS. Recent legislation "corrected" the spellings of National Park Service units in Hawaii to include the special writing marks. One notable exception awaits amendment. The name of the state, Hawaii, is not written with an ‘okina between the two "i", because our Statehood Act in 1959 used the spelling "Hawaii." An Act of Congress is required to "correct" the name of the state to Hawai‘i.

Thus, the name of the state is Hawaii, while the name of the island of the same name is Hawai‘i.

Units of the Pacific Island Network and their abbreviations

ALKA	Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail
AMME	American Memorial Park
HALE	Haleakalā National Park
HAVO	Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park
KAHO	Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park
KALA	Kalaupapa National Historical Park
NPSA	National Park of American Samoa
PUHE	Pu‘ukoholā Heiau National Historic Site
PUHO	Pu‘uhonua o Hōnaunau National Historical Park
USAR	USS Arizona Memorial
WAPA	War in the Pacific National Historical Park